filing such a petition and prosecuting an appeal in the Court of Appeals if such petition for a writ of certiorari is granted shall be paid by the State of Maryland. A copy of such order shall be included with the petition for a writ of certiorari filed in the Court of Appeals and the payment of all filing fees to the Clerk of the Court of Appeals in connection with the petition for a writ of certiorari and an appeal if such petition is granted shall be waived. If counsel filing such a petition on behalf of the defendant has been appointed as such counsel by any court, the Court of Appeals may allow to such counsel a fee to be paid by the State in such amount as the Court of Appeals shall think proper for his services in connection with the filing of a petition for a writ of certiorari and the prosecuting of an appeal if such petition is granted.

- 16. In an appeal in a criminal action the Court of Appeals and the Court of Special Appeals shall give judgment without regard to technical errors, defects or exceptions which do not affect the substantial rights of the parties.
- 17. If the Court of Appeals or the Court of Special Appeals shall remand a criminal action to the lower court in order that such court may pronounce the proper judgment or sentence, the lower court in passing sentence shall deduct from the term of the sentence the time already served by the defendant under the previous sentence from the date of his conviction.
- 21. In any case [, civil or criminal,] in which a final judgment has been rendered by the circuit court of any county or by one of the courts of Baltimore City upon appeal from a justice of the peace, people's court, trial magistrate, [traffic court magistrate,] or Municipal Court of Baltimore City if it shall be made to appear to the Court of Appeals in the case of a civil action or to the Court of Special Appeals in the case of a criminal action upon petition of any party that a review is necessary to secure uniformity of decision, as where the same statute has been construed differently by the courts of two or more circuits, or that there are other special circumstances rendering it desirable and in the public interest that the case should be reviewed, the Court of Appeals or the Court of Special Appeals, as the case may be, shall require by certiorari or otherwise, any such case to be certified to [the Court of Appeals] it for [its] review and determination.
- 21A. In any criminal case, post conviction or defective delinquent proceeding in which a decision has been rendered by the Court of Special Appeals upon appeal from the circuit court of any county, the Criminal Court of Baltimore, or one of the law courts of Baltimore City if it shall be made to appear to the Court of Appeals upon petition of any party, whether a defendant or the State, that a review is desirable and in the public interest, the Court of Appeals shall require, by certiorari or otherwise, any such case to be certified to the Court of Appeals for its review and determination, except no such petition shall be entertained by the Court of Appeals from the denying or granting by the Court of Special Appeals of an application for leave to prosecute an appeal in post conviction and defective delinquent proceedings and from the denying or granting by the Court of Special Appeals of a petition for review filed under Section 21 of this article.
  - 22. An appeal to the Court of Appeals or the Court of Special